

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent application of: GURTLER, Wendell A.  
For: TRAILER HITCH CUSHIONING DEVICE AND METHOD FOR USING SAME,  
the specification of which is being transmitted herewith.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Attached are Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) listing the relevant art known to the applicant herein. These references are U.S. patents and, therefore, copies are not required to be submitted. The Examiner is requested to consider the references and make them of record.

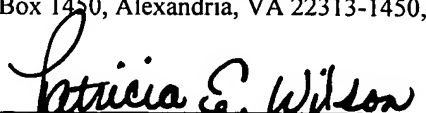
Applicant discloses herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose. Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement, except those identified above.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the

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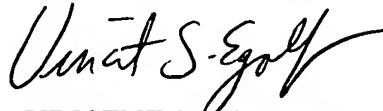
  
PATRICIA E. WILSON

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information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vincent S. Egolf", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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Attorneys of Record

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		Application Number	
		Filing Date	
		First Named Inventor	GURTLER, Wendell A.
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	P06674US00	

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 5,388,849	02/14/1995	ARSENAULT et al.	
		US- 5,683,094	11/04/1997	GULLICKSON	
		US- 5,785,341	07/28/1998	FENTON	
		US- 5,823,560	10/20/1998	VAN VLEET	
		US- 5,887,884	03/30/1999	SMITH	
		US- 6,116,631	09/12/2000	LOGAN et al.	
		US- 6,170,849 B1	01/09/2001	McCALL	
		US- 6,182,997 B1	02/06/2001	ULLRICH et al.	
		US- 6,581,951 B2	06/24/2003	LANGE	
		US - 2001/0035629 A1	11/01/2001	PIERCEY, III	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

<sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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